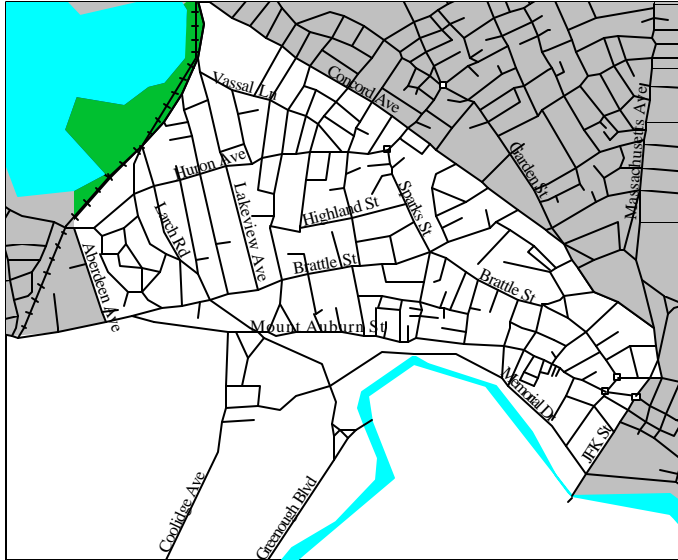
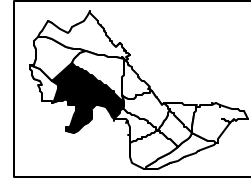


# NEIGHBORHOOD 10

## WEST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION:** 8,266 residents  
3,887 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$54,656

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1 officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and 16X.

### 2001 SECOND QUARTER REVIEW

From last year, West Cambridge has shown significant declines in street robbery and area drug activity, offset by a sharp increase in vandalism. • Only 2 **street robberies** took place during the first half of 2001, and both were committed during the week of 6/24. • **Housebreaks** climbed 36%, with  $\frac{2}{3}$  occurring within the last 5 weeks of the Quarter. Most transpired between 9 & 9:30 pm, or near 4:00 pm. Perpetrators mainly gained entry via the prying of windows or cutting of screens. Jewelry was the favored target, yet suspects also absconded with wallets & small electronics. • **Motor vehicle larcenies** experienced a minor drop since last year, with only one series occurring at a Mt. Auburn St. parking garage, in early March (3/4- 3/8). Stereos & electronics were stolen from 5 autos at this location (entered by way of popped/broken door locks). • Graffiti was most popular among crimes of **malicious destruction** throughout the entire 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter. An increase of 69% can largely be attributed to several sprees, during which homes & businesses along Vassal Ln., Brattle St., & Church St. were targeted. • Only three **drug arrests** were made, causing a drop of 57%. Most originated from other violations, like public drinking or shoplifting. Of the 3 individuals arrested, 1 was homeless, while the others were from areas outside of Cambridge. • Only 1 more **auto theft** occurred in West Cambridge compared with last year. All 10 were scattered about, with autos of different makes and models targeted mainly between the hours of 6 and 9 PM.

### Comparison of Target Crime Statistics

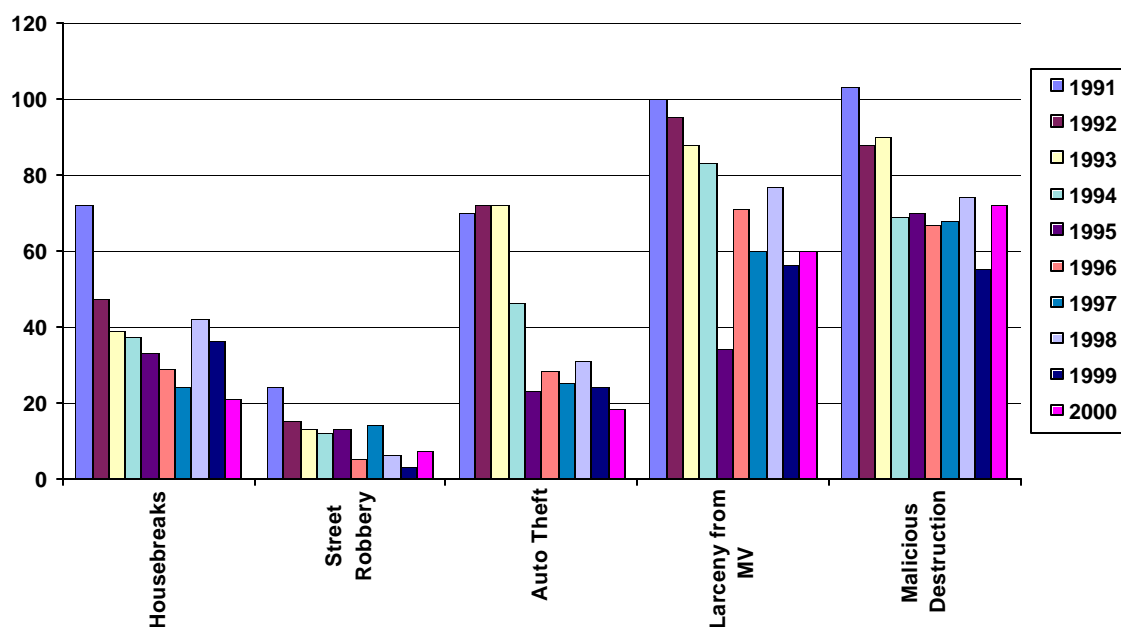
#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2000 & 2001

CRIME	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2000	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2001	% CHANGE
Housebreaks	11	15	+36%
Street Robbery	5	2	-60%
Auto Theft	9	10	+11%
Larceny from MVs	26	22	-15%
Malicious Destruction	36	61	+69%
Drug Arrests	7	3	-57%

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

West Cambridge is, geographically, the largest neighborhood in the city. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic; its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Almost all of West Cambridge's target crimes are lower than average, its population is slightly higher than average.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles**, is concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks, Brattle, and Mount Auburn Street. The incidents occur primarily on weekends, late at night. The related crime of **malicious destruction** registers at average levels.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been virtually eliminated. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, have not appeared for years. The 1997 total was the lowest in three decades.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from Persons** become a problem every spring and summer around the Square and in its many commercial establishments.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2000*
Housebreaks	105	4	38	8	9
Street Robbery	18	7	12	9	9
Auto Theft	105	6	42	8	10
Larceny from MVs	134	3	70	5	4
Malicious Destruction	92	8	75	7	7

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest